
If you believe you are eligible to vote and encounter difficulty registering, please contact the Elections Division of the Colorado Secretary of State:

Colorado Secretary of State
Elections Division
1560 Broadway
Suite 200
Denver, CO 80202
(303) 894-2680, press 1 (voice)
(303) 894-7732 (fax)
(303) 894-2389 (TDD)
www.sos.state.co.us/pubs/elections/main.htm

If the Colorado Secretary of State is unable to help you, or to report a problem, contact:

U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Voting Section, Rm. 7254 - NWB
Washington, D.C. 20530
(202) 307-2767 (voice)
(800) 253-3931 (toll-free)
(202) 307-3961 (fax)
www.usdoj.gov/crt

This pamphlet is provided for informational purposes only, as an aid to further inquiry. The laws in many states are revised frequently, and may have changed since this pamphlet was issued. It is your responsibility to determine whether you are lawfully eligible to vote, and criminal penalties can result from voting when ineligible or making false statements on a registration form.

Issued December, 2000

U.S. Department of Justice

Civil Rights Division



Restoring Your Right to Vote

The Colorado state flag, which is a blue rectangle with the word "COLORADO" in white, serif, capital letters centered on it.

COLORADO

The right to vote is an important civil right in a democracy as well as a civic responsibility, and yet many persons who have been convicted of a crime do not know whether they are eligible to vote. For both federal and state elections, the right to vote is controlled by the law of the state in which you live. Some states restrict the right to vote for persons who have been convicted of a crime. This pamphlet is intended to help you determine whether you are eligible to vote in the state in which you live, and if so, what steps you must take to be permitted to vote.

What law governs whether my felony conviction limits my right to vote?

The impact of a criminal conviction on the right to vote varies widely from state to state. Whether you can vote after being convicted of a crime is determined by the state in which you live, not the state in which you were convicted.

Can I vote while I'm incarcerated in Colorado?

If you are a resident of Colorado, you may not register to vote or vote while you are incarcerated or on parole from a criminal conviction. If you are a resident of another state who is temporarily incarcerated in Colorado, you may be able to vote by absentee ballot in your home state. You need to consult the law of your home state regarding both criminal convictions and absentee ballots to see if this is a possibility.

I have been released from incarceration. How do I restore my right to vote?

Your right to vote is restored automatically upon completion of a sentence of confinement, includ-

ing any period of parole. In order to vote after you have completed your sentence and parole, you simply must register. If you were sentenced only to probation, your right to vote was not affected by your conviction, and you can immediately register to vote.

What if my conviction was for a federal crime?

If you are a resident of Colorado, the same rules apply whether you were convicted of a federal or state crime.

What if I was convicted in another state?

The same rules apply for Colorado voters even if the conviction occurred in another state.

What happens if I move to another state?

If you move to another state, your right to vote will be controlled by the laws of that state.

What are Colorado's other voter registration requirements?

To vote in Colorado, you must be a citizen of the United States, a resident of Colorado at least 30 days prior to the election, and 18 years or older on or before election day.

When do I need to register to vote?

To be eligible to vote in an upcoming election, you must register at least 29 days prior to the election.

Where do I go to register?

Registration is available at many places in Colorado, including:

- most state agency offices
 - most public libraries
 - at any county clerk and recorder's office
 - through the Internet
- www.sos.state.co.us/pubs/elections/main.htm

Registration may also be available at other state service agencies. Contact the county clerk and recorder's office near you to find out which service agencies provide voter registration.